

News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr. Suite 1100, Vasco A. Smith, Jr. Administration Building 160 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

All news releases can be seen at www.shelbycountytn.gov in the News Listing

Public Information Officer: Steve Shular <u>steve.shular@shelbycountytn.gov</u> Office (901) 222-2047, Cell (901) 359-5117

For Immediate Release

July 7, 2016

Record Sales Year For Shelby County Land Bank

Almost \$4.5 million was generated this past fiscal year from the sales of 1,030 surplus Shelby County Government properties.

"I commend our staff at the Shelby County Land Bank for a record sales year. Fiscal responsibility is a top priority. It's vital we get these properties back on the tax roles as soon as possible," said Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

Shelby County owns more than 6,500 properties. The County becomes the owner when property owners don't pay their property taxes.

"Maintaining surplus property is an on-going burden to the taxpayers. We spent approximately \$1.2 million last year to mow grass, remove litter and keep houses and buildings secured," added Shelby County Public Works Director Tom Needham.

During the past five years, the Shelby County Land Bank has generated almost \$20 million in sales, more than a 320% increase from the previous five-year period.

The land bank also donates properties to qualified non-profit agencies registered with the State of Tennessee. Community organizations and neighborhood groups often use the land for gardens and other developments.

To see all the properties for sale, go to www.shelbycountytn.gov and look under the "land bank" listing in the top left corner of the page.

The Shelby County Land Bank smart phone and tablet App is available at Android Play and Apple iTunes. The App has For-Sale lists, sales documents, appointment schedules and directions to the land bank office at 584 Adams Avenue in downtown Memphis.

For sales or donation inquiries, call (901) 222-2575.

(End of Release)